

100896.1.062702

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 April 2001 (12.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/24780 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:  
31/4439 A61K 9/52,

Natco House, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500  
033 (IN).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IN00/00079

(22) International Filing Date: 25 August 2000 (25.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
968/MAS/99 1 October 1999 (01.10.1999) IN

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **NATCO PHARMA LIMITED** [IN/IN]; Natco House, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500 033 (IN).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **VENKATESWARA RAO**, Pavuluri [IN/IN]; Manager R & D (F), Natco Pharma Limited, Natco House, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500 033 (IN). **KHADGAPATHI**, Podili [IN/IN]; Director - Technical, Natco Pharma Limited,

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 01/24780 A2

(54) Title: AN IMPROVED PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION AND A PROCESS FOR ITS PREPARATION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an improved pharmaceutical composition, in the form of a soft gel capsule resistant to digestive juice. The composition of the present invention is made up of gelatin and an enteric polymer in the form of free acid or its salts, containing a benzimidazole derivative used in the treatment of duodenal ulcers, solubilised and/or suspended in a liquid or semisolid medium, comprising of a hydrophobic carrier, an alkaline inert reacting material and a surface active agent and/or a solubilising agent. The present invention also relates to a method for preparing the above said pharmaceutical composition.